

## 3.2 Run-Ons

A **run-on sentence** is two or more sentences incorrectly written as a single sentence. Sometimes the run-on is punctuated with a comma, as in, "Ursula walked down the street, she carried her purse." This is called a **comma splice** since the two complete sentences are spliced or joined by a comma. At other times there is no punctuation, as in, "Ursula walked down the street she carried her purse." This is a run-on sentence since one complete sentence runs on into another complete sentence.

Here are some run-on sentence examples. On the line below the comma splice or run-on problem, write a correct version of the same idea. There may be more than one correct version.

My parents bought new furniture, all the pieces fit well together.

---



---

She loved to have her fingernails done the cost of doing so never bothered her.

---



---

This watch is waterproof my father even wears it when he goes for a swim.

---



---

Your company had the workers sign an agreement it would bind all parties to a code of silence.

---




---

Four lifeguards sprinted across the beach all of them were trying to get to the helpless swimmer.

---



---

 **WRITING TIP** Run-ons and comma splices can be eliminated by reading your writing aloud from the last sentence to the first sentence. Also, pay close attention to punctuation. If you do these two easy steps, you can reduce, or even eliminate, the number of run-ons and comma splices in your writing.

## Let's Get It Right! (Run-Ons)

3.2A

Correct each of these run-ons by rewriting the words in a correct format on another sheet of paper or editing the run-ons here.

1. She dribbled the ball then she took a jump shot.
2. We have been practicing our music every day we really enjoy doing this.
3. When Percy swam across the lake, we congratulated him he was a bit embarrassed by our reaction.
4. My younger sister married Ernesto several years later their first child, a girl, was born.
5. I do not want to tell you again you will need to start eating a healthier diet.
6. For the past ten years my family has vacationed at the same lake it is located in Michigan.
7. We were thinking that our customers would again take advantage of this offer last year this same offer was well received.
8. Ann tried to turn off her cell phone's ringer before the lecture began unfortunately, she did not remember how to do it.
9. This sale will be in effect until the last day of August take advantage of this opportunity as soon as possible.
10. He gave us a ride home after school later we went back for the plays rehearsal in the auditorium.